

THE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HATCHET

OCTOBER
EDITION
FREE
1996

NOTRE DAME: Love it or hate it?



Inside This Issue:

Father of the Bride rehearsals swing into full gear; Kraus, cast, and crew comment.

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South Bend is often thought of as "Irish Country," but not everyone is a "leaping leprechaun" when it comes to Notre Dame.

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Fall sports come to a close with upsets and disappointments, but also brings about big plans and many goals for next year.

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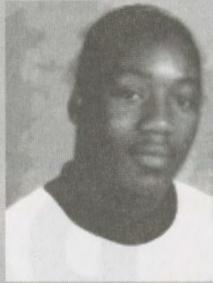
PASSING TIME

Who do you think will win the National Championship and why?



"I have no idea, but John Nikos says Florida, so I guess them." (Since John is never wrong)

Suzanne Myers
junior



"I'm not sure, but I believe Ohio State will be very competitive."

Ivan Blount
senior



"I'm not quite sure. Many of the teams are very good. I think Ohio State will come out on top though."

Brady Maller
freshman



"Florida State, because they seem to have no weaknesses and have soundly beaten their opposition."

Don Watson
teacher



PANTHER BITES

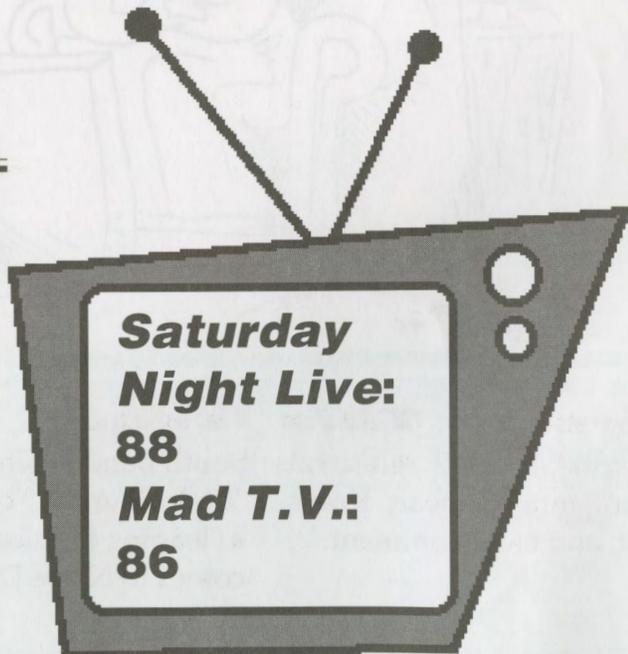
THE BALLOTS ARE TALLIED AND HERE'S WHAT THEY SAY...

WHICH DO YOU LIKE BEST?

NEW SITCOMS

Pearl: 28
Men Behaving Badly: 99
Spin City: 27

VOTES	
Clinton	107
Dole	47
Perot	19



Saturday
Night Live:
88
Mad T.V.:
86

How many teachers are letting you carry a book bag into class??

101 said none
33 said 1
15 said 2
12 said 3
and 12 said over 4!

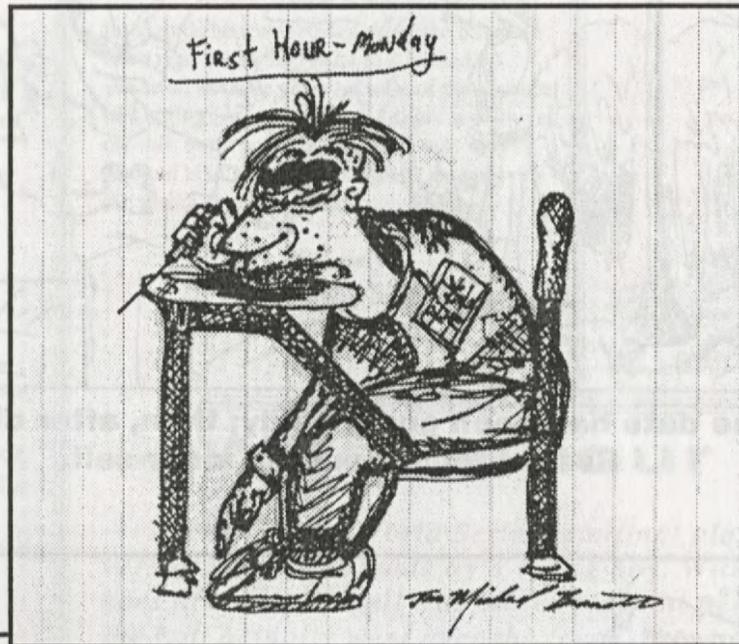


THE

COMICS

WE WANT MORE ARTISTS! The comics page is a regular feature of most newspapers, including this one. We ask that anyone with a talent for cartooning--or even just a good joke--submit their work for publishing on this page. For more info, contact Mrs. Richardson in room 711, Mrs. Hamilton in room 404, or Mark Sniadecki.

OPPS IDEALS by Jan Michael Bennett



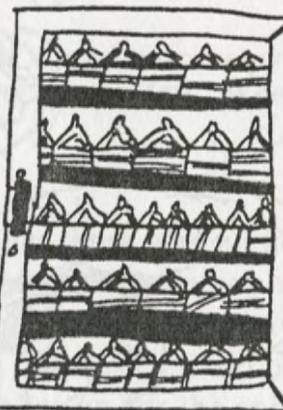
OPPS IDEALS ©

MILK

* SICK OF CHOICES ON WHAT MILK TO GRAB?
 * AFRAID OF GETTING BOLD AFTER TASTE?

BUY JUICE!
 "FOR SUPER HUMANS"

WHERE'S YOUR MISTAKE NOW?



- ← 2% MILK
- ← 1% MILK
- ← CHOCOLATE MILK
- ← CULTURED MILK
- ← LOWFAT MILK
- ← GOAT'S MILK
- ← COTTAGECHEESE MILK
- ← PLAIN OL' WHITE MILK
- ← SKIM MILK
- ← FATFREE MILK
- ← WHOLE MILK
- ← STRAWBERRY MILK
- ← 1/2% MILK
- ← SMELL LIKE EGGS MILK
- ← DAY OLD MILK
- ← BUTTERMILK

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 DISAPPROVEMENT

Seniors take lead in fall comedy

By Prudence White and
Crystal Harden
Staff Writers

MANY HOURS OF AFTER-SCHOOL practice is what it takes to build a set, rehearse lines, and prepare sound and lighting, for this year's fall play, *Father of the Bride* by Caroline Francke.

Drama sponsor Lorie Kraus likes the play for its portrayal of a family who can communicate well with one another. The four major roles are played by seniors.

Daughter Kay Banks, played by Lori Wood, announces to her

family that she and Buckley Dunstan, who is played by Erik Kolacz, are getting married. Mrs. Banks, played by Katharine Chan, is happy, but Mr. Banks, played by Derek Dabrowiak, is somewhat upset. Buckley and Kay do not want a "big" wedding, just a small simple reception with a few friends. The guest list and preparations, however, get larger every day. The plans are almost called off, but in the end, everything is resolved.

Competition for all the parts was intense at auditions: "I feel competition definitely adds to the total experience of theatre," said Dabrowiak.

When asked what aspects she used to determine the parts of the play, Kraus said, "The actors/actresses should capture the gender, age, and characteristics of the person they'll portray."

Kraus said that Dabrowiak has a commanding voice and a strong presence on stage. She also said Dabrowiak



Photo by Tricia Nyhus

Mr. Banks, senior Derek Dabrowiak, speaks to a distraught family member about the wedding.

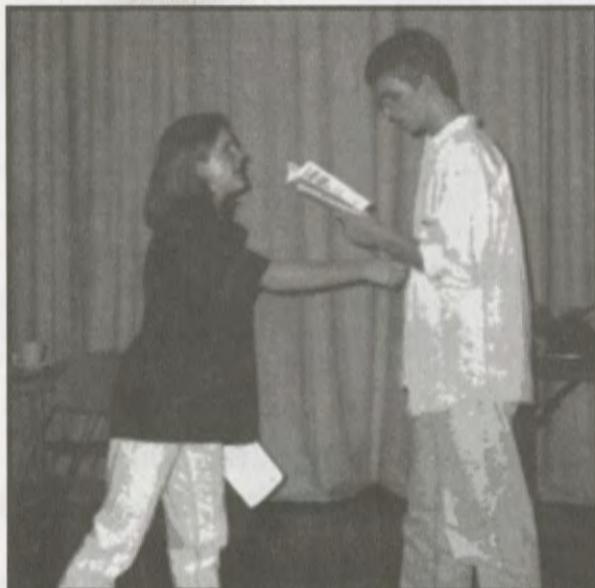


Photo by Tricia Nyhus

Bride Kay Banks, senior Lori Wood, pleads with fiance Buckley Dunstan, senior Erik Kolacz, to come to terms with the growing guest list, as the two love birds argue with one another.

and Chan will work well together. "They seem to have a good connection."

Chan and Dabrowiak aren't the only ones who enjoy working with one another. The entire cast seems to get along very well. Chan said, "This is a really fun cast, and we're always joking with each other."

While the seniors have the leads, underclassmen are also a major part of the production.

Freshman Melvin Williams, who plays young friend Buzz, is most nervous about going out on

opening night: "I hope I don't stutter or give a bad performance."

Sophomore Michael Drain, portrays the Banks's eldest son, Ben. "Participating in this play has been a very good experience. I've learned so much from the upperclassmen...it's been helpful in furthering my acting career."

Actors alone do not make up a successful production. Many students work off stage to help pull the play together. Student director, senior Monica Baker, said, "I think it's fun being a leader this year. I have more respon-

sibilities, but I love it." Baker also said that the hardest thing for her to do is to earn respect from her peers as both a leader and friend. Kraus said, "Monica is my right hand; I don't know what I would do without her."

A large part of acting is becoming the character, and as Kay Banks, the bride-to-be, Wood shows the widest range of emotions. Wood said, "I have to start crying; it's sometimes hard to be sad. It's difficult to always get into the character."

The play will be Nov. 7, 8, and 9 in the auditorium. An additional Saturday night performance has been added to the schedule because of the successes of past productions. The tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for the adults.

Kraus said, "I consider it a privilege to get to direct the theatrical talent at WHS—and we have lots of it!" □



Photo by: Tricia Myklos

"I find I like you, son (played by senior Eric Kolacz)," utters a relieved Mr. Banks, senior Derek Dabrowiak, who is hoping the wedding plans are finally back on schedule.

Faculty branches out



New teachers fill various positions in and out of the classroom, from foreign language club sponsor to counselor to key committee members. Spanish teacher Jay Earl; English teachers Marjorie Lashley and Kathy Jo Tully; science teacher Leo McNellis; social studies teacher Gregory Werner; special education teacher Lauren McClenahan; counselor Carla Roberts; wood and power mechanics teacher Ronald Hamilton; business education teacher Jassen Dowling. □

missing:
English teacher Nancy Benson

Special thanks to photography teacher Barb Shinkos for this photo.

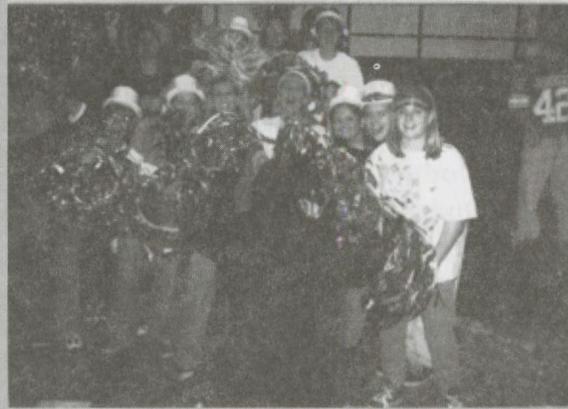
PANTHERS

BY KIM HARNNESS

Homecoming celebrations know no bounds. . .



(Left) Homecoming queen Kristi Ganus has a look of excitement while being escorted out onto the gym floor by Steve Naragon during the pep assembly.



Color guard pumps up the spirit while dancing to the music played by the WHS band.

(Right) Juniors Stacey Kuharic, Tracy Cavinder, and Jenifer Miller pass out homecoming flowers for a junior class fundraiser. (Below) Freshmen Sara VanGoe, Emily Bastine, and Jackie Ullery explode with Panther spirit during clown day.



Sophomore Marci Poor with fellow sophomore clown Jason Gorbitz lead their class to capture the spirit stick.



Two Full Pages of Your Friends, Your School, and a Zany Cast of Millions!

... as Panther spirit thrives unchecked!

Seniors Janice Koch and Eric Kolacz are ready to rumble anarchic style in their punkish attire.



The senior class sends congratulations and good luck to science teacher Jeanne Ciuksza, who was recently married.



As a tradition during Spirit Week, each class prepares a float to display in the main entrance. This float was designed by the sophomore class.



Special thanks to math teacher Caroline Peterson for helping take these photos.

These special students always get into the spirit of things at pep assemblies. Teachers Maggie Clement-Jacobson and Jeanne Hartman can clown around, too, as the entire group cheers on the Panthers.



Notre Dame football: love/hate relationship

By **Nikki Kaufman**

Feature Editor

WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT, when most people think about Notre Dame football, the words "tradition" and "legendary" come to mind. It's reasonable too, considering the fact that they have won more national championships than any other college football team. Yet, people still remain either

way. Shortly before I went to Notre Dame, they tried to de-emphasize it, but it didn't work out. I guess that stands for something."

To talk about how legendary Notre Dame is and not mention football coach Knute Rockne is thought ludicrous to some. What some do not know about Rockne, however, is that he attended Notre Dame and graduated *magnam cum laude* with a degree in chemistry.

He only later went on to coach from 1918-1930.

"...Rockne is the greatest football coach ever. His lifetime winning percentage of .881 is, by the way,

the highest of any coach ever, college or pro." (*Notre Dame Football*)

Junior John Nyikos said, "Part of the reason Rockne is so famous is because he dreamed up the Notre Dame Stadium. That's why people say 'the house that Rockne built.'"

Today, Rockne's dream home is being enlarged. The stadium will hold 20,000 new fans next fall, so more die-hard ND followers than ever before will be able to watch the Irish in action.

Junior Kyle Bach, who grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan, home of the University of Michigan Wolverines, said that he has always hated Notre Dame. "I hate living in South Bend, and I despise Notre Dame. I don't know why; I think just because I love Michigan and they used to have such a big rivalry."

Old-rooted rivalry is exactly what it is. It began when the Notre Dame Irish crushed the Michigan Wolverines in November, 1887. It was ND's very first football game; in fact, Michigan came before the game to teach them the rules to play. Ironically, Rockne had almost gone to coach at the University of Michigan shortly before he was offered the head coaching position at Notre Dame.

Junior Steve Lekarczyk said, "I'm tired of everyone around South Bend talking about Notre Dame all the time. I've always liked Michigan since I was little."

On the reverse side, sopho-



Photo courtesy of Chuck Kaufman

Clad in kilts and bearskin shakos, the Irish Guardsmen march into the stadium.

hot or cold to the Fighting Irish.

History teacher John Killeen, an alum of Notre Dame, said, "It [football] is a big part of the tradition at the university. I suppose it's most valuable to the university because of the alumni involvement. They keep people involved in that

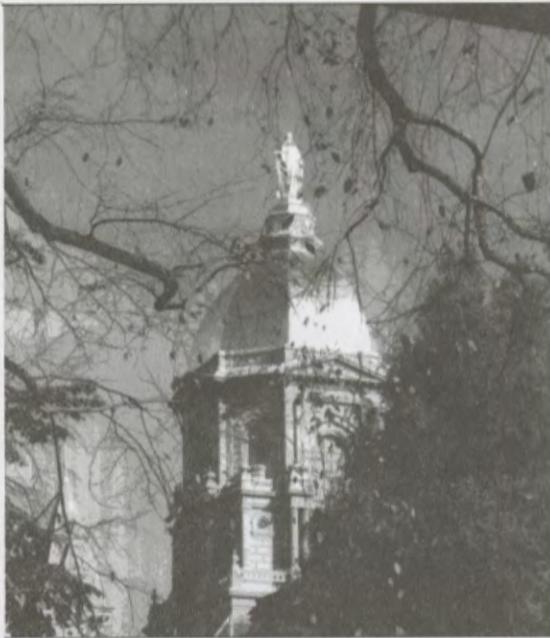


Photo courtesy of Chuck Kaufman

The best known symbol of Notre Dame: the Golden Dome.

more Jennifer Wagner said that she loves Notre Dame because of the fact that they are located in South Bend and they are so famous.

Junior Cody Donlon said, "I like Notre Dame because everyone in my family does and they're a good team. They don't play dirty like everyone else does."

With most either hating or loving Notre Dame, it's hard to find people who really don't care

either way.

Senior Ebony Nailon was one of those rare uncommitted people, "I like to see them win because they're from around here, but I wouldn't care if they lost." She went on to say that Florida State is where her loyalty truly lies.

Another neutral person was sophomore Michelle Savill. When asked if she liked Notre Dame or not she simply commented, "I don't really care."

Starting with that fateful day in November of 1887, devoted fans have always followed Notre Dame. But in contrast to that loyalty, opposing fans are repulsed by the Irish and the uninterested could not care less.

Regardless of public attitudes, Notre Dame established itself as a football giant early on in their history. Even Michigan recognized that fact, for according to a column titled "Local

Items" in the *ND Scholastic* of November 26, 1887, the writer printed, "Captain Duffy, of the Ann Arbor team, seemed to think we have material for an excellent football team." □



Photo courtesy of Chuck Kaufman

The Irish rush into the end zone for yet another touchdown.



**Wolverines fan
Junior
Kyle Bach**



**Notre Dame fan
Sophomore
Jennifer Wagner**



**Wolverines fan
Junior
Steve Lekarczyk**



**Notre Dame fan
Freshman
Julie Laskowski**

Bookbags: study aid or weapon concealer?

Five textbooks, four folders, three binders, two liquid fluids, and a pencil in a pear tree. This could be a back-to-school theme song, but it's probably more along the lines of what the average high-school student carries to and from class everyday.

Editorial

When the South Bend Community School Corporation instituted its no-bookbag policy, they must not have taken into consideration how much of a load high-school students actually have to lug around.

Most teachers assign at least one textbook, require a folder, and oftentimes ask for either a notebook or a binder. Multiply this by six or eight classes, and that almost equals a hernia.

Students also have to carry a green plan book that is required at all times. Other miscellaneous items also essential to a successful school day are writing implements, loose-leaf paper, and workbooks.

It is understandable that the administration

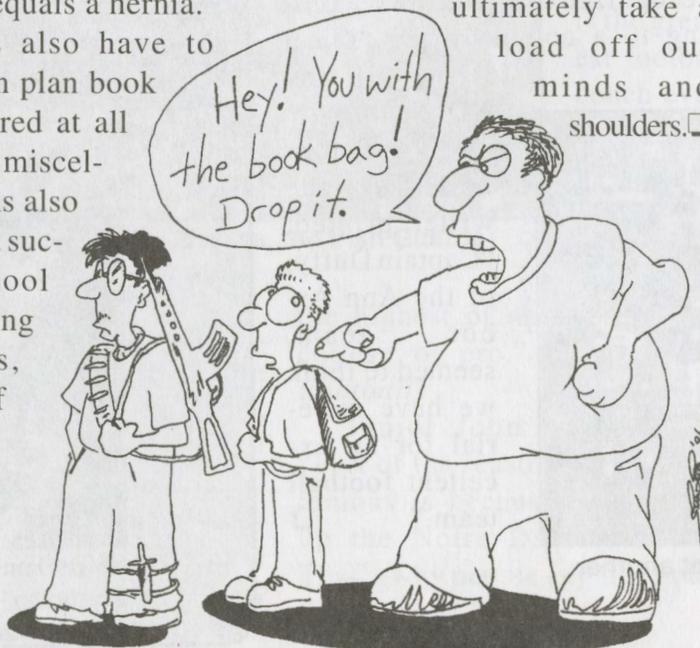
is concerned with our safety, but to deny those students who want to learn a chance to lessen the burden of textbooks in their arms is ridiculous.

If people are desperate enough to carry a knife or gun to school, then certainly they will carry it whether or not bags are allowed. They will just find another way to hide it.

Some students do sneak by with a bookbag, and some of their teachers do not mention the "rule" or choose to ignore it. Other teachers, however, make a big fuss about a bookbag even if they see one in the hallways during passing periods.

This inconsistency of enforcing the rule frustrates both students and teachers alike.

Being able to carry bookbags would definitely make students' lives easier and ultimately take a load off our minds and shoulders. □



Thumbs Up Thumbs Down

THUMBS UP

...to the junior class and their sponsor Kathy Cavinder for organizing the great football homecoming festivities.

...to the new intros for Channel One. "Man, if this is torture, chain me to the wall." You've come a long way.

...to Mother Nature for this last summer hoorah! Don't get too comfortable though, because jackets will be here soon.

...to the Classes of '98 and '99 for dethroning the champs. Panther spirit has really taken off.

...to the upcoming production of *Father of the Bride*. The actors' and tech crews' long hours and hard work are really beginning to pay off. Be sure to catch them in the act on Nov. 7, 8, and 9.

...to the free HATCHET. Now everyone is able to keep up on the latest events and activities. Be sure to check out all the upcoming papers, so you can be informed, too.

A big GREEN thumbs up goes to math teacher Marilyn Coddens for tending to the beautiful potted flowers now in the greenhouse. These flowers are a result of PROJECT TEACH; their goal is school beautification by the time of graduation ceremonies.

...to computer lab aid Jean Hay for her spirited window display in the computer lab. We love the scarecrow and other fall scenery. We hope you continue to have spirit for all the other holidays as well.

...to bookstore manager Peggy Winston and the rest of the staff for their part in raising money for the March of Dimes Blue Jeans for Babies. It was fun wearing jeans for a good cause.

...to swim coach Dave Woods for bringing home four medals from the International Law Enforcement Olympics in August.

THUMBS DOWN

...to the lack of punks, Indians, and "Bozos" during Spirit Week. This is the time when you're supposed to dress "out of the ordinary." Next time take advantage of it.

ART Gallery

by Kimberly Harness & Mark Sniadecki



Paint/Crayon drawing by junior Kevin Griffis



Ink drawing by senior James Schaefer



Photograph by junior Mat Willoughby

Tough finish for football team

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**
Sports Editor

The Panther football team, off to a 1-2 start, was in need of improvement; it was not looking good as the Mishawaka Cavemen were next on the schedule for WHS.

Mishawaka has played the Panthers very tough in the past few years.

"Mishawaka has played us very well the past couple years, but looking at the films, we saw some weaknesses, and we believed we could beat them," said senior Dan Hersom.

The Panthers started off hot as senior Ivan Blount scored on a 44-yard touchdown run, and it was only the second time he touched the ball all game.

Mishawaka grabbed the momentum right back as they marched down the field on the Panther defense.

Junior Kyle Bach was quick to end this threat as he picked off the Cavemen pass in the back of the end zone.

Senior Sam Burris ran for 21 yards on an end around for the second Panther touchdown of the day.

In the second half, Blount put the Panthers up 20-6 on a 17-yard touchdown scamper.

In the fourth quarter, with just over a minute to go and the Cavemen marching down the field, junior Steve Lekarczyk picked off a Mishawaka pass to seal the victory for the Panthers.

WHS did not complete a pass, but the Panthers managed to run for 270 yards against only 71 rushing yards for the Cavemen.

"Our kids played hard; six of them went both ways," commented Coach Scott Bovenkerk.

The next game for the Panthers was against their cross-town rival, the LaSalle Lions.

It was a cold, rainy night at School

Field. The emotions were running high in the locker room before the game. The fired-up Panthers wanted a shot at their cross-town rivals no matter what the conditions were.

In the second quarter, a 33-yard punt return by Burris set up a Blount touchdown from 27 yards out.

The Panthers outpassed the Lions by just five yards, but once again the game was won on the ground for WHS.



Photo courtesy of Memory Lane

Senior Ivan Blount blitzed the Cavemen for 186 yards in a key conference game. The Panthers were victorious 20-14.

WHS rushed for 121 yards, while holding LaSalle to only 28 yards.

With a 6-0 lead, the Panthers again drove down the field to the six-yard line, and on third down, senior Drew Jeffrey found a wide open senior, Eloy Alvarez in the end zone for a touchdown.

"It was tough to do anything offensively. The field was spongy and was not in good condition at all," commented Bovenkerk.

WHS held LaSalle to just one first down in the entire game as the Panthers mounted nine of their own.

The next game for the Panthers was homecoming night at School Field against the Knights of Marian.

Student versus teacher. Reggie Glon versus Scott Bovenkerk.

Glon started his coaching career in high-school football as an assistant coach under Bovenkerk.

Marian received the ball at the opening kickoff, and the Panther defense stepped up well in holding the Knights to three and out, forcing a punt that would have given the Panthers good field position.

It's a fumble!

This was one of six turnovers on the day for the Panthers, which led to all 13 Marian points and was too tough for WHS to overcome.

"We had just two kids go both ways, while Washington had six or seven. Fatigue was definitely a factor late in the game," said former Panther assistant and current Marian head coach Reggie Glon.

The Panthers did, however, show signs of greatness on their second drive of the night. WHS went 86 yards in 13 plays and was capped off by a 14-yard touchdown pass from Jeffrey to junior Kyle Bach.

The Panthers outrushed and outpassed the Knights, but turnovers killed WHS in the long run.

The Panthers then travelled to Rice Field to face off with the tough Blue Blazers of Elkhart Central.

Early in the game, Central marched down the field. The Panther "D" was too tough as they held Central to a field goal.

There was good news and bad news in this situation.

The good news is that these would be the only three points that the Blazers would be able to score all night.

The bad news is that that was three more points than the Panther offense put up on the scoreboard all night.

WHS lost a tough defensive battle by the score of 3-0. □

Henry heads to Indy for state finals

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**

Sports Editor

The Panthers were looking forward to sectionals with high expectations.

Junior Jamal Henry was awarded second team all-conference just before sectionals.

"I felt as if I were going to be a contender in the state tournament, I would really have to pick up my game and take my game to another level," commented Henry.

With this thought in mind, Henry won four of his final five matches by defeating Clay, Jimtown, LaVille, and LaSalle, while losing a tough match to New Prairie in three sets.

Finally, sectionals rolled around, and the Panthers were matched against the Clay Colonials.

The Panthers were defeated four games to one, thus eliminating all but

one Panther.

Henry was still alive.

Henry jumped out to a 2-0 lead by breaking Mueling and holding his serve.

Henry went on to win the first set by the score of 6-4.

After playing tentatively in the first set, Henry unleashed an attack on Mueling, winning the second set 6-0.

With a little help from St. Joe winning the team competition, Henry advanced to the regionals.

Henry then awaited the winner of the match between John Glenn and Triton.

After falling behind 2-0 in the first set, Jamal outplayed and outshot the Triton number one on his way to the state finals.

"He was in the groove after being down early and just played very well every match," said Coach Daryl Boykins.

With St. Joe defeating Penn in the team competition, it was official; Henry was headed down state.

As Saturday morning came around, Henry found himself in a tight match with Lowell's Nathan Thomas.

After falling 6-4 in the first set, Jamal rebounded in the second and third sets to outlast Thomas 6-0, 6-4 to advance to the quarterfinals of the tournament.

"I knew that if I lost this match that my season would be over, and I hadn't worked hard all year for my season to be over in the first round of the state finals. Also knowing I was the first player ever to go down state in tennis at Washington High School, I figured I better make a name for myself," commented Henry.

In the quarterfinals, Henry was eliminated from the tournament by Concord's Nick Pulver by the scores of 7-5, 6-1. □

Volleyball hovering around .500

By **Katie Shaumber**

Sports Writer

The girls' volleyball team is having their share of ups and downs this season. The Lady Panthers' record so far is 8-7. Last year's record was 13-11. During the rocky up and down road of this season, the Panthers beat LaVille 15-8, 11-15, 15-3, but fell short of the win against LaPorte 10-15, 13-15.

After trying their best to stay on the up scale of things, the Goshen tournament was next. The Panthers were defeated by both Jimtown and Lakeland, 14-16, 15-7, 9-15, and 14-16, 15-3, 12-15 respectively. But then they came back to beat New Prairie 15-12 and 15-12.

"They are working hard, but we aren't winning as many games as we usually do," commented Coach Tressie Jurgonski. "When we are up, we keep on playing well; but when we slip a little, our game starts to go down a bit more than it should."

Jurgonski says that her players are

equal in talent, but also adds that her senior players are pulling their weight on the team by getting 100 percent of their serves.



Junior Courtney Nawrot stuffs Elkhart Central's chance of winning.

The Panthers have also improved on their saves, digs, and passes during the course of the season.

The Panthers will not settle for second best this year. Last season proved to be a heart-breaker as they lost in the final round at sectionals. They won't settle for any-

thing less than their best.

Having practice from 3-6 pm every afternoon after school keeps the girls in shape. That way, they can be better prepared for upcoming sectionals at the end of the season.

"I hope that we can go farther than sectionals," said Jurgonski. She added that if the team can keep playing well, they can pull it together to win the South Bend sectional.

"I feel that if we can pull it together for sectionals and play as a team, we have a good chance to win," said junior Sarah Wood.

"I think that our game is very good this year. Our team is young and we will have hard shoes to fill with our graduating seniors," said sophomore Lindsey Chrzan.

Senior players who will graduate this year are Courtney Litka and Jessica Babbitt.

"We are still a young team. I feel that we can work together and still go places in the future," said Jurgonski. □

Crazy season comes to close

By Drew Griffis
Sports Writer

The boys' soccer team made many improvements since the start of the new season.

The team stood at 2-3-2, and were tied for fourth in the conference after a tie against 18th-ranked Clay.

"Everybody's contributing to the team's success. It is not one or two players we are relying on; it is everybody," commented Coach Doug Knowlton.

The boys took on a very good Penn team, following the tie against Clay. The game was scoreless for the first 20 minutes until Penn scored two quick goals to end the first half. Neither team would find the back of the net again in this contest. Lack of offense hurt the Panthers as they were out-shot by the Kingsmen 21-5.

The next opponent was Elkhart Memorial. The Chargers struck first with a goal 10 minutes into the game. Senior co-captain Zack Smith scored the next two goals in the contest.

After Memorial tied the score, junior Devin Nuner put the Panthers back on top 3-2; Nuner was assisted by Smith.

Minutes later Smith was given a red card, which made him ineligible for the rest of the contest. Forced to play one man down because of Smith's ejection, the Panthers could not hold on to their lead in the second half. Memorial had a pair of goals in the second half and went on to win 4-3.

The Panthers' next game was against Mishawaka.

Nuner started the scoring late in the first half; his goal put the Panthers up 1-0 at halftime.

WHS showed who was the better team in the second half. Goals by senior co-captain Jesse Perez and Nuner put the game away for the Panthers. Junior Drew Griffis had the shutout and eight saves in the 3-0 victory.

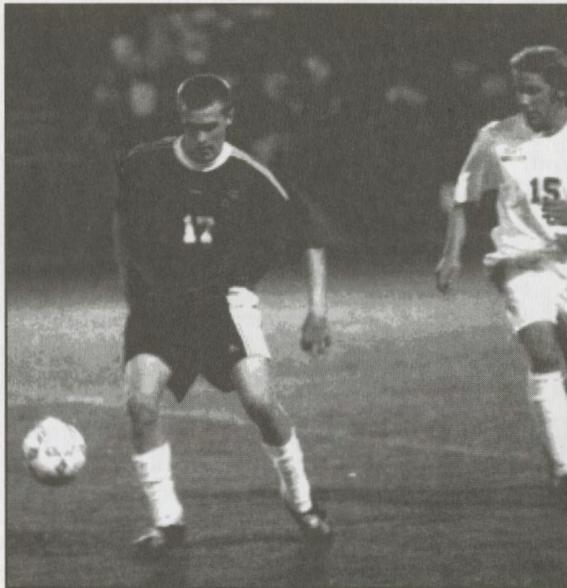
Next up was rival Riley. WHS has never beaten the Wildcats in the regular season, but they did beat them in last year's sectional.

Both teams had chances, but for most of the of game, the scoreless tie was not broken. Late in the second, however, Nuner broke loose into the Wildcat defense. Before he could take a shot, he was tripped from behind.

This gave him a penalty shot, and Nuner finished Riley off with a well-placed shot just off the keeper's fingertips.

Griffis had 12 saves, and his second straight shutout in the net.

The victory was bittersweet, though;



Senior Zack Smith easily dribbles by NIC MVP, Justin Hines, in a conference match-up that ended in a 1-1 tie.

the Panthers would lose their top defensive player for the rest of the season. Perez was suspended because of an altercation with a referee.

The team stood at 4-5-2 after the hard-fought 1-0 victory over the rival Wildcats.

The Panthers now played 10th-ranked Adams. WHS played the Eagles tough, but were clearly outmatched. Adams scored one first-half goal and two second-half goals, while keeping the Panthers scoreless in the game.

The Eagles had 23 shots to the Panthers' five en route to their 3-0 victory.

WHS played undefeated Community Baptist in their next contest. Once again the Panthers could not score in the entire

game. Community Baptist only needed two goals to preserve their victory.

"The lack of scoring just doesn't lie on the heads of our forwards," said Smith. He added: "If the defense can find a way to get the ball ahead to the forwards, we will score."

Next, the Panthers traveled to LaVille.

WHS scored early and often. They scored three goals in the first 15 minutes. Smith headed two goals in; both were assisted by sophomore Carlos Huitzel. Huitzel also scored the third goal on a perfectly placed free kick past the Lancers' keeper.

Late in the half, LaVille scored off a defensive miscue by the Panthers, who still led 3-1 at halftime.

Huitzel added to the Panther lead with his second goal of the evening. WHS led 4-1 until their defense fell apart.

LaVille scored three goals late in the second half, and the game ended in a 4-4 tie.

The blown lead almost overshadowed Huitzel's best career night. He had a career-high two goals and two assists.

He also had a shot that hit both posts, which would have won the game for the Panthers had it gone in the net.

"I was in the zone tonight; everything was working for me," said Huitzel.

Sophomore Shannon Althouse added a "knock out" for the Panthers, before being ejected.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, they drew St. Joe in the sectional pairings. The Indians are ranked sixth in the state, and they are by far the best team in the sectional.

"Last year we got a very fortunate draw in sectionals. We had a bye the first round, and then we beat Riley to advance to the sectional finals," said Knowlton. "This year we got the worst scenario for sectionals. St. Joe will be tough, but I feel we will step up to the challenge."

The Panthers were eliminated by the Indians by the score of 9-2. □

Cross country can only improve

By Lindsay Maller
Sports Writer

The cross country team had a good season. The girls' team was large enough to qualify for each meet. The boys' team was nearly twice as big as last year's team.

Almost the entire team was mainly underclassmen, therefore, it wasn't very competitive against other schools. This can only mean, however, that the team will get better as the runners grow older and gain experience.

Close friendships and good memories were formed on the team with the many days of training and running together.

"I think that this year everyone encouraged each other, which really helped bring our times down; because of that, we were all more dedicated to the team," said junior Amanda Whittaker, a returning runner.

Due to some unfortunate errors, the team's record is lower than it could have been. At the LaVille meet, some WHS's scoring cards were confused with LaVille's, incorrectly showing that they finished ahead of the Panthers. In reality, WHS beat LaVille by one point. The Riley meet also involved some confusion. The course was extra long, seriously affecting the times of the WHS

runners. The Riley coach was aware of the problem, but didn't change it until after the race.

Despite a few disappointments, the season had some major highlights. All runners did well at their home meet; almost everyone ran his best time.



Freshman Kory Keen fights to stay ahead of his competition at the New Prairie Invitational.

The runners enjoyed the invitationals because they didn't count on the season record. The runners were able to compete with schools they normally wouldn't run against during the regular season. Invitationals were on Saturdays, starting

in the morning and lasting until early afternoon.

Freshman Jeremy Glenn said, "I liked the invitationals because we could relax, and they gave us a chance to hang out and be ourselves."

At the city varsity meet, both the boys' and girls' teams beat LaSalle and were close to Riley.

Coming in 14th in the city, senior Kelly Retek helped the girls in their victory over LaSalle: "I like to encourage the girls, and they try really hard. We worked well together to gain this victory."

The cross country season has ended, but the runners are still going; they must continue their training as they look to next season.

Coach Joel Beckman encourages his runners to get involved in other sports, especially swimming and track.

He also supports running programs and tells his teams to run at home.

Beckman is optimistic about next season and the ones to come. He believes that this season was the beginning of Panther cross-country

comeback.

"This team is the building block of the future. Every year this team will improve and become more competitive," commented Beckman.

Rough finish for girls soccer

By Jamal Henry
Sports Writer

This season for the girls' soccer team can be compared to the first drop on the Magnum roller coaster at Cedar Point.

At first, the girls were climbing and making strides at a record-breaking season. They made history by winning two games in a row, the first time this has happened in four years.

"In my opinion, I think this year went better than expected. WHS made history by winning two games in a row this year, and every girl played to the best of her ability; and that is all anyone can ask," said senior co-captain Rosalinda Leyva.

Like any roller coaster, one can't go up forever.

The Panthers came crashing down after their tremendous start by losing their last eight games of the year.

WHS was led by Leyva, juniors Suzanne Myers and Bobbi Densmore, and sophomore goalie Brooke Baumgartner.

The Panthers will have large holes to fill next season because they are losing

their two captains, Leyva and senior Wendy Mitchell.

Myers said, "Next year will be tough because we're losing our leading scorer and a starting defender, but we will be getting a lot of young talent from Navarre. A lot of girls showed improvement this year, so if we all work our butts off, we can be better than we were this year. We're not going to be a Penn or Adams, but we are out to show them we are not a joke. We are out there to play, we're out there to score, and we're out there to be the best we can be."

With WHS beginning to decline toward the bottom of the Northern Indiana Conference, the Panthers hosted Mishawaka at School Field.

Leyva scored a goal, but the Panthers came up short as they lost 1-6.

WHS then was shutout in two consecutive conference games; one to Riley and the other to Adams.

Desperately looking to stop the slide, the Panthers played the Culver Girls Academy. It was close all the way as Leyva scored a game tying goal in the second half,

but it was not enough as the girls' academy scored once more to win 2-1.

The Panthers then played Culver and finally started scoring goals. The only problem was that they gave up eight goals of their own.

Leyva again led the Panthers with two goals and Myers added one of her own.

Sectionals were next for the Panthers as they travelled to Michigan City to play LaPorte. Baumgartner came out of the goal to play forward and added a goal. Sophomore Sara Muia added the other goal, but the Panthers were eliminated from the tournament by the score of 5-2.

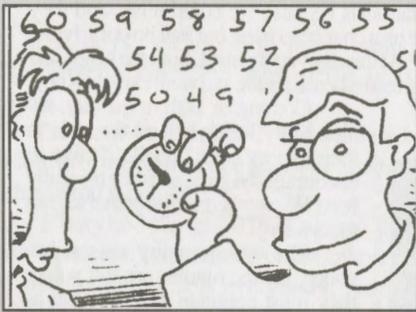
"Of course we wanted to do better this year, but losing 11 experienced seniors does not help your chances of winning. So overall, we did do about as well as I expected," commented Densmore after the loss in sectionals.

Leyva and Densmore have been offered the opportunity to play soccer overseas in Holland this summer. They would have the chance to compete with other teams from other countries. □

THE USHERS

By Bob Palatino and Dennis Gdansk
Two Guys

The opinions voiced in this column are not necessarily those of the HATCHET staff. We'd also like to stress that Bob and Dennis are real humans, though any attempt to uncover their identities will result in an "unpleasant" visitation from a large hired thug named Knuckles.



DENNIS: You have one minute to decide if you want to read the rest of this review.

BOB: Tick...tick...tick...

DENNIS: Time's up. If you're still reading, then you've made the right choice. In case you haven't guessed by now, this month's review is on *Two Days in the Valley*. Although not as good as *ID4*...

BOB: (sigh) A lot of people have said *Two Days* is just another *Pulp Fiction*, except without Quentin Tarantino.

DENNIS: Royale with cheese, my friend.

BOB: Well, I haven't seen *Pulp Fiction* yet, but this movie definitely has its own class. The movie starts with a really strange maniac named Lee (*Stargate*'s James Spader) arranging a deal with a down-on-his-luck, very Italian hitman (Danny Aiello). Because we can't quite

agree on what his name in the movie was, we'll refer to him with clever phrases like "Fettucini Guy."

DENNIS: This is when the story gets really interesting, or confusing, or both. They proceed to a remote mountain house which has Superman's Teri Hatcher, a former Olympic skier, lying asleep in bed with her former husband, who is also a former Olympian. She is knocked out with a hypodermic needle to the gluteus minimis. The now famous "one minute" scene then occurs.

BOB: Lee (a.k.a. the Minuteman) kills the guy, and later shoots Mr. Italiano; but there's something he doesn't know:

Marinara Man is wearing a bullet proof vest! From there the story splits into about eighty billion separate episodes that are all intertwined—yes, folks, it's one of THOSE movies. But the characters are awesome!

DENNIS: The plot changes remind me of *The Usual Suspects*. Anyway, from there, we see everything from Marinara Man almost getting blown into a million pieces to a down-on-his-luck director contemplating suicide. Encouraging, isn't it?

BOB: And don't forget the wussy art dealer (Eric Stoltz)! He was a . . . jerk.

DENNIS: Does anybody else smell fruit when this guy enters? Anyway, I'd give

anything to be Lee. He's got everything, from a babe for an accomplice to a psycho personality.

BOB: I liked the Pasta Dude; he was cool, but not homicidal or obsessed with things like the time it takes to microwave a burrito (one minute).

DENNIS: The characters then suddenly find themselves interacting with each other and basically foiling each others' plans. Isn't this where the money comes in?

BOB: Oh, right! There IS a point to all of this madness—you see, somewhere along the way it is discovered that three people (notgonnatellwhonotgonnatellwhomustresist) were in on a major robbery. There's some serious cash involved here.

DENNIS: \$30,000 to be exact. The plot thickens like bad cafeteria chili. In an attempt to recover the cash, Lee winds up killing two cops who are surveying the murder scene. While he's doing this, Hatcher and Lee's accomplice babe have a gigantic cat fight. Grrrrrowwllll!

BOB: Meow! Hiss! But anyway. . . we highly recommend you check this one out. Go with a group.

DENNIS: Since my friend won't let me reveal the ending, I guess that's all for this month. See ya later, folks!

BOB: Aaah! Another dog! □

George's To-Do List:

It's about time that the school board realizes we need an extra day to recover from eating all of that Halloween candy. Adding to your weekend, there will be **no classes on Fri., Nov. 1.**

Alright, Panthers! You've made it through the first grading period. Now just be extra nice to your parents as they will be coming to pick up your report card on **half-day Nov. 4. Tues., Nov. 5, will also be a half day**, so depending on how much trouble you're in, you can enjoy another break from school.

Great job, all of our fall athletes! Get ready for a night of recognition at the **Fall Sports Banquet on Nov. 6**, which begins at 6:30. Only those with a ticket will be allowed inside. Athletes are also asked to bring salads this year, so please, no cheese-cake.

Our fall play, *Father of the Bride*, will be held from Nov. 7-9 in the auditorium. Admission is \$3 for students and \$5 for adults. The doors open at 6:30 and curtain rises at 7. Come out and support our Thespians!

Nov. 14 is a half-day, so enjoy the fall colors.

Thanksgiving break will be held on Nov. 28-29. But remember, Panthers, you are what you eat. Gobble, gobble!

Knowing that no one at WHS ever gets tired of candy, the entire month of Nov. is filled with sweets. **The Winter Guard is selling goodies 4-8; IOL/COE, 11-22; and Class of '97, 25-6.**

For juniors and seniors, the **SAT will be given on Dec. 7.** Registration is **Nov. 1**, and the late date is **Nov. 14.**

Also, for your college prep needs, the **ACT test date is Dec. 14.** Regular registration is **Nov. 15**, and late date is **Nov. 29.**

College visitations for the month of Nov. are U.S. Navy, St. Joseph's College, Purdue, and IUSB. For more information on dates and times, contact Mrs. Roberts in the guidance office.

We will have another **late start day on Nov. 20.** Doors open at 9:15, but students riding buses are asked to report to the cafeteria until the bell rings.

